is at 43% as the pace of implementation was affected due to the model code of conduct for two State Assembly elections in Bihar in 2005-06.

Right to education

777. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has expressed divergent views on the proposed Right to Education Bill, especially on the financial implication in regard to implementation of elementary education programmes;

(b) whether the Planning Commission has projected the outlay for implementing the Bill at Rs. 53,532 crores every year in view of the State Government pay-scale for teachers and student-teacher ratio of 40:1; and

(c) whether Government are considering to re-draft the Bill if so, by what time the new draft Bill be ready?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) On the basis of the report of the Committee set up by the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) to suggest a draft of the Legislation envisaged under Aricle 21-A of the Constitution, a complete version of the draft "Right to Education Bill" was prepared and sent to all State Governments and UTs for comments.

Report of the CABE Committee included an estimation of financial implications of its recommendations worked out by the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA). The average annual cost in the scenario of PTR=40:1 and teacher salary as per State level salary was estimated to be Rs. 53,532.7 crores.

In the meanwhile, the Prime Minister also constituted a small group comprising Minister of Human Resource Development, Finance Minister, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and Chairman of the PM's Economic Advisory Council to examine, *inter alia*, the legal, constitutional and financial implications of the Bill.